MATWATCH

16 Robin Hood Lane Jackson TN 38305

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

INJURY LIST BIG FROM ARMAGEDDON

PHILADELPHIA---At least three performers at Joel Goodhart's AUTUMN ARMAGEDDON spectacular Sept. 15 here came away with injuries.

Terry Funk, who took on Jerry Lawler in the topliner, suffered severe lacerations which had not been closed the next day. Funk refused hospital attention.

TWA heavyweight champion D.C. Drake was diagnosed with a severely sprained ankle and ordered to take a two-week layoff. J.T. Smith was treated for a fractured jaw.

GILBERT EXPECTED TO BE NAMED BOOKER

MEMPHIS---Veteran wrestler Eddie Gilbert is expected to be named booker for the USWA Memphis promotion, perhaps as early as this week. No official word was available at deadline.

Gilbert has been booking most of the key angles in the promotion since arriving here in early summer. He has been sought by at least one other promotional group and has also been debating an offer to become a TV producer for the World Wrestling Federation.

Memphis kingpin Jerry Lawler has expressed a desire to work fewer arena dates and the shift to Gilbert is part of the consideration.

HALLOWEEN HAVOC CARD FINALIZED FOR CHICAGO

ATLANTA---The full card for HALLOWEEN HAVOC Oct. 27 includes the previously announced Sting-Sid Vicious NWA world title match and Lex Luger-Stan Hansen U.S. title bout, along with the DOOM-Ric Flair/Arn Anderson battle.

Remainder of the card: (U.S. TITLE) Steiners vs. Nasty Boys; Freebirds vs. Renegade Warriors (Mark & Chris Youngblood); Junkyard Dog vs. Moondog; Tommy Rich vs. Jeff Warner; Southern Boys vs. Master Blasters; Terry Taylor vs. Wendell Cooley; and in the opener, Rock & Roll Express vs. Midnight Express.

The Kongi Gamble

WHAT ARE JOE'S CHANCES?

I will not claim total objectivity over this subject. As many readers know, Joe Pedicino is a close friend and his success or failure with Kongi Sports and Entertainment as a wrestling executive means little to me in terms of Joe as a human being.

Unless a fire torches his money supply, Pedicino is about to have the proper financing to at least make a go of a first-rate competitor of a wrestling company. But as any discerning fan knows, money alone does not ensure success. What are the pros and cons of any major effort in the ring business today? Here, as I see it, is what Pedicino faces:

PROS

***GOOD FINANCING: The financial trust behind Kongi appears to be well-heeled to lose money for at least two years. And with startup costs, no promotion is going to be profitable for at least that long.

***TALENT AVAILABILITY: True, the Hogans, the Stings, the Lugers, the Flairs and the Ultimates are all untouchables tied to contracts. But more wrestlers than even I was aware are simply working on nightly guarantees and if pay scales are right, there will be no shortage of quality names interested in talking to Kongi.

***LOW-KEYING PRELIMINARY WORK: Unlike some other efforts, Pedicino has not made grandiose promises. In our interview of two weeks ago, much of which he restated on PRO WRESTLING SPOTLIGHT in New York last Sunday, Pedicino concedes, while he doesn't go in with this attitude, Kongi could well not make it. "If I can't do this right, I'm not going to do it at all," Pedicino told John Arezzi on WBAB. He has frankly told some wrestlers who have contacted him that he cannot and will not talk to any under contract. Further, as for his recent loss of a deal with Fox Broadcasting for a winter special to the WWF, Pedicino congratulated Vince McMahon. "If I were going to spend a million dollars on a prime time special, I'd go with a proven track record, too," said Pedicino. "But we will be doing everything we can to prove we're worthy of the next shot."

CONS

OVERALL DOWNSLIDE IN WRESTLING: As I've told Joe personally, my biggest concern is that the timing could be wrong for this. With WWF live crowds down, the NWA still not burning up houses and---except for the recent CLASH special---TV ratings fairly stagnant, wrestling is going to have to be presented in a dramatically different and attractive fashion for a new group to have a chance at success.

THE TV PICTURE: FOX is now on the backburner for Kongi. So, it still needs significant TV exposure for any chance of success. I do not believe a wrestling group can go after a national audience from scratch today because I don't think enough TV stations could be cleared. Even a related effort last year (ROLLERGAMES) ended in failure. The only answer would be to buy an

(Continued on Page 2)

STEVE BEVERLY

(Continued from Page 1)

existing syndication network and with Vince's certainly not for sale, one would have to focus on either THE WRESTLING NETWORK (NWA, approximately 170 stations, not on the block, either) or Andrews Entertainment's USWA lineup, which has been pursued by other groups in recent months.

Such a purchase would be expensive but, if made, would lend credibility to Kongi's finances. But without the massive pull of Titan's 250-station lineup, any new group is still going to go in with an image of being second-class.

***FRONT-OFFICE PERSONNEL: One of the key difficulties others have had in matching the WWF in image is in the deficit in front office staff vs. Titan. If Kongi starts with $20 million, it will have a shot but how far it goes will be determined by how the promotion markets itself in a broad-based national fashion.

The one question at least seven big names in wrestling have asked me in recent weeks is: "Do you think Joe Pedicino is really capable of running a big-time promotion?"

My answer is this: Joe Pedicino is as capable as the people he surrounds himself with, the predominant key to any enterprise. If Joe has the money and makes the right purchases, the primary ingredient is his ability to select and nurture the right support staff. If he does it well, of course, he's capable.

Realistically, the odds are against Kongi and if it does not get off the ground, it will hardly be the end of the world. But I know one quality about Joe Pedicino some people discount: one way to prod him into a venture is to say he either can't or is incapable of doing it. That happens to be the quality I like most about him: whether he ultimately succeeds, he will work like a mole digging a hole in a yard at trying.

Put it this way: with the recent track record of wrestling promotions, I don't know why Joe Pedicino should be considered any better or worse than those who have tried before. No law prevents him from a fair shot.

MATWATCHING THIS WEEK

ZANE ARRESTED: Former Georgia All-Star wrestler Tony Zane, appearing as The Black Scorpion at last Monday's NWA TV tapings, was arrested on charges of marijuana possession and driving without a license after the show. Police reports indicate Zane was picked up by officers after lighting up a joint in the parking lot.

BLASTING OUT: One of the Master Blasters, apparently discontent, took a bus home to Iowa after Saturday night's Detroit show. He's being replaced, apparently by Al Green (Blade Hunter).

HORNER HURT: One of the Blasters injured Tim Horner over the weekend. Tim was checked out in Atlanta Monday and his down time is uncertain.

KEEP YOU EYE ON: TBS, now that Gerry Hogan, the top-ranking exec below Ted Turner, resigned Monday. No instant shakeups but it's a situation to watch.

BE A FUNKER: Terry Funk has been approached about reviving the FUNK'S GRILL segments for WCW. Chris Cruise, however, was told no when he asked if there was a chance to revive the Funk/Cruise team.

ANOTHER CHANCE: The IWA hopes to have another crack at SPORTS CHANNEL AMERICA in the winter or even sooner if Herb Abrams' UWF does not fulfill its deal with SCA.

ON TOUR: IWA plans to tour Philly Wednesday, Aberdeen MD (THU), Atlantic City (FRI) and Mt. Holly NJ (SAT).

BACK TO CENTER: The Center Stage in Atlanta will once again host the TBS wrestling shows come October 9. Two weeks worth of TBS matches will be taped on alternating Tuesdays.

DIFFERENT LOOK: Jim Herd told us a key reason for returning to Center Stage is to give the TBS and syndicated shows different looks. I still say TCS is an ideal place to tape TV and I hope they stay.

DEJA VU: Any of you seeing last weekend's ICW show caught an old ICW match with Kevin Sullivan featuring Gordon Solie at the mike.

NETWORKING: By the time the shakeout finishes, the NWA may have lost as many as 15 hours across the country. Pittsburgh has been lost again, in addition to the several shows in Florida. The syndie market is very tough.

RECOVERING: Gorilla Monsoon's is still reportedly in weak health after returning from his two-week absence on PRIME TIME. His recent illness was related to a diabetic condition.

WHO'S ON STRIKE?: Thunderbolt Patterson openly threatened to picket the CNN building if the NWA "messes with me," at a recent TV taping. He would, too.

EDDIE WINS: Eddie Gilbert won the 17-man blindfold battle royal in Memphis last Monday. The Mid-South Coliseum was off this week because of the Mid-South Fair and rodeo.

TAG SWITCH: Jeff Gaylord and Jeff Jarrett won back the USWA tag belts from Brian Lee & Don Harris in the rubber match of a three-week series.

NO STEAMER: Ricky Steamboat's October tour of Japan will preclude him being in the USWA tourney Oct. 8. Gilbert still hopes to get Ricky for a later date.

ABC'S STORY: ABC's affiliate relations chief Warren Denker was in our town Wednesday and told me the Piper-Ventura TAG TEAM series was pulled because it was "a creative disaster." Said Denker: "None of it was going the way we'd initially envisioned it."

FOR THE ASKING: For those asking the address of Fleur Press for wrestler Pat Barrett's autobiography is P.O. Box 6073, Gulf Breeze FL 32561. It's $18.95.

SWITCH PLACES: I'm told another NWA announcer rotation may be in the offing but specifics aren't certain. Bob Caudle will probably revert more to a Gene Okerlund-type role, so we're told.

ON ANOTHER FRONT: I'm told no change is in the offing but the McMahon/Piper team on the WWF is yet to jell. There just isn't as much counterpoint for Roddy as when he was opposite Gordon Solie in the early '80s.

SOUTHEASTERN'S BACK: The funniest cornpone wrestling show on the air is back on in Chattanooga and last week showed taped matches from the previous night in Athens TN.

NEXT WEEK: MATWATCH will be mailed one day late. We will be returning from the Radio-TV News Directors Association convention in California on Sunday.

TV TEMPO

Sept. 17-23

[SPECIAL NOTE: Because our trip to California necessitated an early deadline, this week's TV TEMPO does not include the complete Saturday or Sunday TBS shows.]

(WWF/USA) - [PRIME TIME]: Kerry Von Erich d. Barry O; (UPDATE) Bro. Luv-Sherri-Ultimate Warrior; Sama Simba d. Chris Duffy; (6-MAN) Demolition d. Ronnie Garvin/Jim McPherson/Jose Luis Rivera; Jake Roberts d. Brian Costello; Jim Duggan d. Lanny Poffo, rips off his wig & swats him with 2x4; Dino Bravo d. Mike Durham; (BRO. LUV) Legion of Doom yells at Bruce; Earthquake d. Sonny Blaze; Shane Douglas draw vs. Haku; (SEG) Mean Gene w. Dusty Rhodes. RESTHOLD.

(WWF/SYND.) - [CHALLENGE]: Tugboat d. Duffy; Ted DiBiase d. McPherson; Simba d. Brooklyn Brawler; Curt Hennig d. Jim Powers; (FEATURE) Mean Gene intros Gen. Adnan as Sgt. Slaughter's manager; Bossman d. Paul Perez; Power & Glory d. Ross Lindsay/Craig Bill; Legion of Doom d. Rico Frederico/Scott Colantonio. RESTHOLD.
[SUPERSTARS]: (6-MAN) Demolition d. Ross Lindsay & 2 partners; (UPDATE) Ultimate Warrior goes berserk backstage & decks Jim Brunzell trying to find Randy Savage; Akeem d. Sonny Blaze; Earthquake d. Brian Costello; Tito Santana d. Brooklyn Brawler; Marty Jannetty d. Black Bart; Kerry Von Erich d. Barry O; Nikoli Volkoff d. Mike Sharpe; (BRO. LUV) Sgt. Slaughter intros Gen. Adnan as his manager; (FEATURE) Sapphire launders, irons money for DiBiase; Rhythm & Blues d. Craig Bill/Barry Hardy. RESTHOLD.

(USWA/SYND.) - [CHALLENGE]: (POLE MATCH) Billy Travis d. Tim Talltree but Angel of Death runs in. Talltree grabs Angel's trumpet but Billy escapes, grabs his guitar, bashes Tim, then knocks out Angel; [REPLAY]: Jeff Jarrett burned; Bill Dundee/ Steven Dane d. RPMs; Chris/Toni Adams d. Steve Austin/Jeannie Clarke, then Chris & Toni handcuff Jeannie to rope & Toni yanks Jeannie's hair out. Chris Von Erich gets Percy Pringle out of penalty box & the 3 work over Percy. DRAW.
[BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP]: [REPLAY] Jerry Lawler comments on car rundown angle w. Eddie Gilbert; Brickhouse Brown d. Jeff Rockett; Tony Anthony/Doug Gilbert d. T.D. Steel/Keith Haynes; Brian Lee/Don Harris d. Tim Hall/Ken Raper; [INTERVIEW] Downtown Bruno/Frank Morrell feud; Jeff Gaylord d. The Shadow; Rex King/Joey Maggs d. Twilight Zone. RESTHOLD.

(LPWA) - [HANDICAP] The Beast d. Mighty Mites; Bad, Black & Beautiful d. Shelley Francis/Reggie Bennett; [LPWA TITLE]: Susan Sexton d. Candi Divine. BOMB-PLUS.

(PRO WRESTLING '90) - [REPLAY]: Busich-Sheik and Fabian-Steve Lawler angles; Randy Rose d. The Eliminator; (From UWA) Zebra Kid d. Big, Black & Beautiful; (CLASSIC) Jeff Jarrett/Brickhouse Brown d. Beauty & the Beast; Lawler d. Fabian; (INTL) Cuban Assassin d. Chris Benoit; Nick Busich d. Abdullah the Butcher by DQ. RESTHOLD.

(NWA/SYND.) - [WORLD WIDE]: Blade Hunter d. Dave Diamond; Brian Pillman d. Basher; Freebirds d. Alex Porteau/Joe Cezana...Rocky King as Little Richard Marley intros 'Birds; Tim Horner/Mike Rotunda d. Nasty Boys by DQ; DOOM d. Jim Solomon/Brian Carr. RESTHOLD.
[NWA PRO]: DOOM d. Reno Riggins/Porteau; Stan Hansen d. Scott Allen; Wendell Cooley d. James Earl Wright; (DANGER ZONE) Paul E. w. Flair/Arn/DOOM; Sid Vicious d. Lou Perez; Pillman/Tom Zenk vs. Ric Flair/Arn Anderson no contest when DOOM hits ring & melee erupts. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(ICW) - Tonga Kid d. Tony Rumble by DQ; Ox Baker d. Avenging Angel; Kat LeRoux d. Misty Blue Simmes; [REPLAY/ICW TITLE] Vic Steamboat d. Tony Atlas to win belt; [REMATCH] Misty Blue d. LeRoux; Kevin Sullivan d. Rudy Diamond. BOMB-PLUS.

(SOUTHEASTERN) - Mauler Mays d. Wild Jim Earp; Larry Santana d. Richie Dye; [S.E. TITLE] Superstar vs. Moondog Max ends in double DQ when both brawl & juice to a pullapart; Superstar II d. Louie Louie; [ANGLE] J.C. Carson claims someone stole his pit bulldog from his yard and wants the dog back. BOMB.

SCALE: PINFALL! - Must See. PILEDRIVER - Excellent. POWERSLAM - Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB - Poor. PLUS - Mid-scale rating.

(NWA/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Bambi/Reno Riggins d. Peggy Lee Leathers/Bill Ford; Terry Taylor d. Buddy Landell; Tim Horner/Mike Rotunda d. Nasty Boys by DQ when Knobbs throws Tim over top; Freebirds d. Scott Armstrong/Barry Horowitz & DDT Scott after but Southern Boys save; (WNN) Gordon recaps Sting-Vicious angle at CLASH; (RUNNING THE GAUNTLET) Scott Steiner d. Bobby Eaton; (LOUISVILLE SLUGGER) Cornette w. Stan Hansen & Hansen-Luger clip from CLASH. DRAW.
[WCW]: (GAUNTLET II) Steiner d. Ric Flair.
[MAIN EVENT]: (GAUNTLET III) Steiner d. Arn Anderson to win "$15,000."

(USWA/WMC) - Danny Davis d. Nebula; Joey Maggs d. Quasar; Eddie Gilbert d. Ken Raper; [ANGLE] Brian Lee/Don Harris announce they're "firing" Downtown Bruno, so Bruno says he'll go after USWA tag titles himself; [USWA TAG TITLE]: Jeff Jarrett/Jeff Gaylord d. Bruno/Lou Fabiano by DQ when Lee/Harris throw flour in Gaylord's face & double on Jarrett. Lee/Harris walk off with belts; Anthony d. Steel; (ANGLE) Dirty White Girl tries to slap Brickhouse but Brick blocks & DWG/Anthony retreat; Brickhouse d. Doug Gilbert by DQ when Anthony runs in and hangs Brick w. noose over top rope while DWG slaps him until Davis/Maggs save; (BLINDFOLD BATTLE ROYAL/MID-SOUTH COL.) Eddie Gilbert wins when he decks Lawler w. object. Eddie picks Door No. 2 for his car prize. Car turns out to be 1962 Chevy, so Eddie beats car w. chair & stomps on top of it; (ANGLE) Lawler invites Snowman to enter USWA tournament; (ANGLE) Davis rejects second straight bid to join Eddie's "King's Court." RESTHOLD-PLUS.

LINES OF THE WEEK

1. Paul E. Dangerously, POWER HOUR: "Missy Hyatt is the only person in the NWA whose entire career you can call a bust and mean it as a compliment." 2. Joe Pedicino, PRO WRESTLING SPOTLIGHT: "I've had a number of wrestlers tell me, 'If I only had a lot of money, I'd really be able to do wrestling right.' I know right then, it's not gonna happen." 3. Pete Van Wieren, TBS: "Tonight, on the NWA POWER HOUR, it's COED TAG TEAMS????" 4. Skip Caray, TBS, on Peggy Lee/Bill Ford vs. Bambi/Riggins: "Two guys, a girl and a deer. We'll watch that one from the press room." 5. Caray, TBS, to Van Wieren, on PH intro: "We've been friends for a long

time. Sorry I made you do that one." 6. Bobby Heenan, PTW: "Bossman's mom asked DiBiase for a new dress. She said, 'Burlap's in season.'" 7. Paul E., PH: "Cornette's suits are by Bozoware. Make him look like he graduated from Clown College." 8. Gorilla Monsoon/Heenan, PTW: (GM) "I have a contract in my drawer which tells what can happen to you if you keep this up." (BH) "What goes on in your drawers is none of my concern." 9. Heenan, PTW: "I know what SAMA SIMBA means. It's Ugandan for 'room service.'" 10. Heenan, PTW, on Simba: "He came in here like some kind of savage. No offense, Macho Man."

11. Terry Funk, SQUARED CIRCLE: "Spit out your vitamins and you can be a Funker, too." 12. Paul E., PH, on Bambi/Riggins: "There's her partner, Thumper." 13. Samuel F. Kent/Boni Blackstone, WVEU: (SFK) "I want to be on THREE'S COMPANY." (BB) "You'd like to live with two girls?" (SFK) "No, I'd like to have my own apartment and be a chef." 14. Samuel F. Kent, WVEU: "At 5:00 on TV69, we have DIVORCE COURT, something you'll be in soon, Boni." 15. Craig Johnson/Percy Pringle, USWA: (CJ, to Angel of Death) "You don't look like you're injured." (PP) "Who are YOU? Dr. Kildare?" 16. Downtown Bruno, WMC: "People wonder why I have stomach gas." 17. Roddy Piper, WWF, on Nikoli Volkoff: "He changes his heart about as often as he changes his underwear." 18. Piper, WWF, on Gorbachev: "I don't trust nobody with a spot on his head." 19. Piper, WWF, on Earthquake: "Nice adhesions under the armpits." 20. Bob Dow, ICW, on Undertakers: "I like them like I like Paregoric."

21. Jerry Lawler, WMC, on Eddie's '62 Chevy prize: "It was better than the one he drove up to the Mid-South Coliseum in."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Monsoon/Heenan, MSG: (GO) "Bob Bradley went to the Terry Garvin School of Self-Defense." (BH) "That's defunct. It's bottom's up." 2. Pedicino, PWS: "If I can't do a new promotion right, I'm not going to do it at all." 3. Paul E., PH: "I don't know about Scrap Iron but Peggy Lee Leathers could beat up Reno Riggins." 4. Ric Flair, PH: "When you're Ric Flair, you walk at the pace you want to walk." 4. Piper, WWF, on Gen. Adnan: "This is garbage. This is total garbage! We've got guys over there!" 5. Piper, WWF, on Adnan/Slaughter: "That bedsheet he (Adnan) wears on his head would make an excellent body bag for both of them."

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - 1. Funk, SQUARED CIRCLE: "Why is it you people live in a city where the baseball team (Phillies) is named after a female horse?" 2. Heenan, PTW: "Have you seen the movie about Bossman & his mom? It's called GODZILLA EATS COBB COUNTY."

INSIDE INFORMATION - Jim Ross, PH, on Peggy Lee Leathers: "I understand she wanted to be Mrs. Jim Cornette."

SEXIST REMARK - Paul E., PH: "You mean I don't get to see the broads fight the guys?"

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. COED WRESTLING (Caray/Van Wieren on POWER HOUR) 2. BLOND WOOD (Sean Mooney on Genius' wig on Duggan's 2x4).

BEST PICTURES - 1. PH, Hansen choking Cornette on open. 2. PH, Brian Knobbs' missing teeth. 3. PH, Bobby Eaton railed from Steinerline. 4. PH, Closeup of Scott Steiner posting arm & Eaton posting nose. 5. WMC, Sam Bass Lowe choking Ken Raper on floor. 6. USWA, Percy being locked in cage.

WORST PICTURES - 1. Hansen, PH, with tobacco juice running out of mouth (it's a cliche now). 2. Rocky King, PH, as Little Richard Marley.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES AWARD - Paul E./Ric Flair, PH: (PAUL) "...the greatest heavyweight champion in our sport." (RF) "Paul E.---my man. I've gotta come out here more often." (PAUL) "Thank you SO much for being here. I kiss your hand." (Really, Paul?)

PICKY BLOOPER AWARD - NWA announcers for continuing to call the TBS specials "The Clash of Champions" when the shows are "Clash of the Champions."

BOO AWARD - J.C. Carson, SOUTHEASTERN, for remark about wanting his pit bulldog back. Considering the recent death of a Tennessee woman and another mauling by a pit bull in Memphis, Carson's remarks were a depth in tastelessness.

TUBE TALK

The GAUNTLET segs this weekend were first-rate. It's a shame the Steiner-Eaton match had to be preceded by five repeat matches....In answer to some late questions, Missy Hyatt (on NME) was not the first woman to do play-by-play. Mike McGuirk has done a few on PRIME TIME....Memphis will run at a Catholic high school gym Thursday night to make up for its blockout of the Coliseum by the Mid-South Fair....Told the SLAMMERS anniversary weekend was a major success.

Jim Ross, Sting, Brad Armstrong, Brian Pillman and Tom Zenk roll up $15,000-plus for charity on FAMILY FEUD this week. It's at 10 a.m. EDT/9 a.m. CDT/PDT on CBS again.... Vince McMahon reportedly engineered a subtle "hostile takeover" of the bodybuilding circuit last weekend at the Mr. Olympia contest, announcing the formation of the World Bodybuilding Federation....Will be enjoying spending a portion of the week with our compadre Dave Meltzer while in San Jose CA. ...Jim Cornette did not tape TV Monday night in Atlanta and why should he go all that way for a 2-minute spot where he pitches to clips? Cornette has become this year's version of Eddie Gilbert in the NWA, a candidate for DECLINING STAR OF THE YEAR through no fault of his own. I may well have some words about this next week.

We will be heading for the Oct. 8 championship tournament in Memphis....SATURDAY NIGHT'S MAIN EVENT taping in Flint MI on the 19th: Demolition vs. Ultimate Warrior/L.O.D.; Earthquake-Bossman; Hogan/Tugboat vs. Rhythm & Blues; and a Dusty-Savage match which ends up with a DiBiase/Virgil attack on Dustin Rhodes and I'm told there is juice. Is Vince pushing his luck with NBC to go permanently with FOX?

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YOU SAID IT!!!

Can you shed any light on the whereabouts of: Maxie York, Don Carson, Bruiser Bob Sweetan, Bobby Fields?

TOM RACHAL
BATON ROUGE LA

(FSB: I'm going to ask for some of our MATWATCHers' help on this one.)

One quick question regarding two of the more talked about angles that have occurred in wrestling the past few years (those being the recent Lawler/Gilbert car crash and the Scott Steiner/DOOM limo attack). Why was one so universally praised whie the other so steadfastly panned? By my recall, both angles: a) were rehashes of old angels (Gilbert/Lawler '87 and Dusty/Horsemen '87); b) were on prime viewing time for the 6-14 year-old core wrestling market; c) were wanton acts of violence that would probably have gone to trial had they REALLY happened on the streets.

JODY BOYNS
MANCHESTER NH

(FSB: Jody, you're probably right on all counts. I wasn't crazy about either because of the messages behind them, though the setup and execution, TV-wise, of the Lawler-Gilbert car rundown was well-choreographed. But I don't like what criminal acts portend to a vulnerable audience.)

After watching SUMMER SLAM, a few things went through my head: 1) why the short I-C title match? It's not like they were pushed for time? How come no interview with the new champ after?; 2) why is Bad News Brown allowed to be on a pay-per-view event. His ring work makes the Anabolic Warrior look decent. He should be banned from all pay-per-view events; 3) why was Roddy Piper so obnoxious? I know it was his first big event (as a commentator) but he was awful.

MIKE SAWYER
LAS VEGAS NV

Regarding Gordon Solie, the guy who has been on TV in Florida and the USA for over 30 years, don't you think the American Museum of Broadcasting should recognize that accomplishment? The thousands of hours the man has spent before the camera should officially be recognized.

RICH KRAEMER
LAVALETTE NJ

Can you tell us more about your new monthly newsletter, FLASHBACK?

CAROL HOPE
APPLETON WIS

(FSB: It is a 10-to-12 page monthly on TV nostalgia---not wrestling nostalgia, mind you, but concentrating heavily on our favorite TV shows of the '50s, '60s and '70s. If you're of TV during that era, partiuclarly a lot of the shows on NICK AT NITE, I think you'd enjoy it. It sells for $1.50 an issue or $16.00 for one year. You can order from the same address as MATWATCH, just put FLASHBACK on the envelope.)

Is Sting married?

EVA JACKSON
NEW YORK NY

(FSB: Yep.)

CLASH XII? For the most part, I found it pretty boring and some of it ludicrous! The ratings (Mike Rotunda & Tim Horner??) were "interesting." Flair vs. Luger was decent and the NWA gave us a ripoff in the main event (no surprise really). Overall, I'd rate it a C-. I can't complain TOO much as it was a free show.

DAVID WILLIAMSON
CLEVELAND TN

The NWA is consistent. FALL BRAWL '90 was wrestling intercourse at its finest. They promised for weeks a name and unmasking if the Scorpion was beaten and he was, 1-2-3 in the middle and they failed to deliver. The NWA is not only senile but impotent.

GEORGE HILL
JAMESTOWN KY

I still cannot fathom, even though Flair-Luger was a major draw, how 3.8 million viewers watched those last two matches. This was one of the dullest shows ever and the Scorpion was a complete bust! My biggest fear is that the NWA will take this as a cue to use a bunch of cheap rookies, thinking we'll all watch anything they throw at us.

ROGER CARSWELL
JACKSONVILLE FL

I guess I'm in the minority but that's okay. I liked the CLASH. I felt that while the new guys were green, they at least tried to work. The Master Blasters look like a team that two years from now will be strong but they have to start somewhere. And the Nasty Boys really tried. We've all wanted to see new people. Let's give them a chance.

RICK REDMOND
CHICO CA

I've had it! If this is what they call a CLASH, then the Mulkey Brothers will be main eventers. Next time the NWA has a CLASH, they can waste someone else's time, not mine.

LEE BOWMAN
BOWLING GREEN KY

RATINGS RAP

FOOTBALL DOES NOT DETER PRIME TIME, ALL-AM

College and pro football apparently put a big crimp in NWA ratings over the weekend but did not stop USA Cable's ALL-AMERICAN WRESTLING from reaching its second-best rating of the year and a first-place tie with WWF PRIME TIME on USA in Nielsen figures for the week ending Sept. 17.

ALL-AMERICAN scored a 3.0 rating and 8.2 per cent share of audience, runner-up only to the WRESTLEMANIA VI day edition (3.2). The rating was up 36% from the previous week.

PRIME TIME, which dipped sharply against the first week of Monday Night Football, rebounded for a 3.0 as well, despite a strong Broncos-Chiefs NFL clash and the premiere of the CBS fall lineup opposite.

On the other hand, WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING took a 28% dip from its Sept. 8 outing, falling to a 2.1/4.9, the lowest rating and share for the TBS Saturday show (aside from one unscheduled 4:05 p.m. airing) since Ole Anderson took the booking helm. ABC was airing a close Southern Cal-Penn State matchup opposite but WCW also faced strong college competition the previous week.

POWER HOUR, only weeks away from a move to Saturday morning, posted its eleventh straight sub-2 rating and enough males tuned to the 49ers-Redskins to drop NWA MAIN EVENT below a 5 share for the second straight week.

Syndication numbers, if available, will be featured in the TV TEMPO segment on Page 4.

CABLE

Week Ending Sept. 17	Rating	Share	Total Homes
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 9/16)	3.0	8.2	1.62 million
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 9/17)	3.0	4.5	1.62 million
NWA MAIN EVENT (TBS 9/16)	2.5	4.7	1.4 million
NWA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (TBS 9/15)	2.1	4.9	1.18 million
NWA POWER HOUR (TBS 9/14)	1.6	3.1	896,000
NWA POWER HOUR (R) (TBS 9/15)	0.7	6.2	392,000

More Charges Fly

ABRAMS, UWF SAGA CONTINUES IN WEST

By CHRIS CROSBY
West Coast Correspondent

RESEDA CA----Herb Abrams' new Universal Wrestling Federation was to have another try at launching here Monday night after a fiasco at The Celebrity Theatre in Anaheim canceled the UWF's initial TV taping Sept. 13.

Ticket prices were lowered to $8 for Reseda. Abrams told THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER the problem stemmed "from the correct permits not being granted in time." According to Abrams, the Celebrity Theatre is an entertainment facility and required a special zoning permit to hold sporting events. Abrams claims to have lost $100,000 on the failed taping.

Anaheim city attorney Jack White told the REGISTER approval was granted for The Celebrity last Thursday afternoon and challenged Abrams' claim over the zoning issue. The theatre's manager echoed White's comments.

Reportedly, key performers scheduled to appear on the card were paid. The Abrams group is rushing to make a scheduled debut on SPORTS CHANNEL AMERICA.

TALENT SIGNED FOR USWA TOURNEY

MEMPHIS---Fourteen contenders have been signed for the USWA heavyweight championship tournament at the Mid-South Coliseum Oct. 8 and two others are in negotiation.

Florida champion Steve Keirn, a former Memphis star, has agreed to appear, along with Mike Graham and Dick Slater from the PWF circuit. They join the already-committed Terry Funk, Austin Idol and Mark Callous. Former WWF and NWA stars Ivan Koloff has also agreed, along with George Weingeroff as Abdul Hassan and former USWA champion Jimmy Valiant.

Gary Young will be brought in from the former USWA Dallas circuit. Negotiations are continuing with recent NWA performer Paul Orndorff and Dick Murdoch.

Four-time USWA champion Jerry Lawler, tourney favorite Eddie Gilbert, Jeff Jarrett and Bill Dundee will represent the Memphis regulars. USWA announcer Craig Johnson is expected to call the tourney for later showing in syndication.

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